

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) An absorbent article comprising an absorbent body enclosed between a liquid-permeable liner sheet layer and a liquid-impermeable backsheet layer; wherein the article has a longitudinal axis, a relatively wide anterior end and an opposite posterior end connected by side margins to define a generally triangular shape; the side margins substantially continuously converge to the posterior end; at least one tab extends from each side margin; and at least one attachment element is associated with each tab, the at least one attachment element aligned oblique to the longitudinal axis of the article/having a major axis oriented at an angle that is oblique to the longitudinal direction.

2. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the side margins have an inner edge that is substantially straight.

3. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein only one tab extends from each side margin.

4. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 3 wherein only one attachment element is associated with each tab.

5. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 4 wherein the attachment elements are affixed to the tabs.

6. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein each attachment element comprises an adhesive portion.

7. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 6 wherein the adhesive portion is protected by a release liner.

8. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the article has a thickness of less than about 5 mm.

9. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the liner sheet layer and backsheet layer are joined at the side margins.

10. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 1 wherein the at least one tab is spaced from the anterior and posterior ends.

11. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 10 wherein the at least one tab is centrally located along the side margin.

12-18 (canceled)

19. (Original) An absorbent article comprising an absorbent body enclosed between a liquid-permeable liner sheet layer and a liquid-impermeable backsheet layer; wherein the article has a longitudinal axis, a relatively wide anterior end and a posterior end connected by side margins to define a generally triangular shape, the article further comprising at least one tab extending from each side margin, and the article being formed by a process comprising the steps of:

a) separating a first attachment element from a first supply of attachment material that is aligned in a machine direction, parallel to the longitudinal axis of the article;

b) rotating the first attachment element from the machine direction to a predetermined angle that is oblique to the machine direction;

c) indexing the first attachment element to the absorbent article moving in the machine direction; and

d) applying the first attachment element to the at least one tab of absorbent article.

20. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 19 formed by a process comprising the further steps of:

e) separating a second attachment element from a second supply of attachment material that is aligned in the machine direction, parallel to the longitudinal axis of the article;

f) rotating the second attachment element from the machine direction to a predetermined angle that is oblique to the machine direction;

g) indexing the second attachment element to the absorbent article moving in the machine direction; and

h) applying the second attachment element to the a second tab of absorbent article.

21. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 20 wherein the first and second attachment elements are symmetrical about the longitudinal axis.

22. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 19 wherein each attachment element comprises an adhesive portion.

23. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 22 wherein the adhesive portion is protected by a release liner.

24. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 19 wherein the article has a thickness of less than about 5 mm.

25. (Original) The absorbent article of claim 19 wherein the liner sheet layer and backsheet layer are joined at the side margins.

26-37 Cancelled.